

Carbondale of yore proud of its three fine hotels

As previous articles in this series on the Carbondale of 1894 have demonstrated, the Carbondale of seven decades ago was an up and coming community, and with everything up to date.

Our article this week will be one of three dealing with the three hotels of that day, The Hotel Anthracite, The Hotel American and the older Harrison House. The following is taken from the newspaper files of the year:

Carbondale is fortunate in having three first class hotels. That is we will have when the new Hotel American is completed, which will be within a short time. In the early part of next month, then, (paper was dated June 28, 1894) we will be able to boast of three hostels which are the equal of any in this part of the country.

HOTEL ANTHRACITE

On Tuesday, June 12, there was opened for business in Carbondale a hotel, the superior of which does not exist in this section of the country. The Anthracite is in every way a modern hostelry, and everything which man's inventive genius has contrived for the ease and comfort of hotel life is here used.

The Hotel Anthracite is a four story and basement structure fronting 80 feet on Main St. and 120 feet on Sixth Ave. Trenton faced brick, laid in red mortar with red sandstone and a few terra cotta trimmings are in the fronts. The facade on the first story on both streets is carried out in simple classic design; the divisions between the several stores and hotel entrances are marked by heavy pilasters surmounted by classic entablatures. There are entrances into the hotel on both Main St. and Sixth Ave., with projecting porticos whose classical entablatures rest on Ionic columns; the balconies thus formed are reached from second story windows. The roof lines are broken by the introduction of a number of dormer windows of varying widths and degrees of prominence; the cornices have a broad overhand and are Spanish in their character with ornamental iron railings along the cornice line of the recessed dormers. The corner of Main

St. and Sixth Ave. is made prominent by being formed on a partial circle, and at the roof line develops into a round turret with terra cotta tablets.

GOOD VIEWS BOTH WAYS

An idea of the general outside appearance may be had from the accompanying souvenir. The interior has been carefully designed and is laid out with a view to comfort and convenience. The hotel fronts on Sixth Ave. with the main entrance and the ladies entrance connected. The lobby is 27 x 36 feet and is finished in antique quartered oak. Opening from the lobby is the reading room, which is 14 ft. 6 in. by 20 ft. 6 in. It is in the corner of Main St. and Sixth Ave. and the circular plate glass windows command a view of both thoroughfares. The reading room is fitted with six individual desks. It is finished in antique quartered oak, paneled and the whole effect is made more beautiful by a beautiful open fireplace and a mirrored mantle.

Opening from the other side of the lobby is the ladies reception room, which is finished in white and gold and handsomely furnished.

The billiard room is in the open space between the wings and over the boiler room. It is finished in colonial style in grey and cream white, with four Brunswick-Balk-Callender company tables, two pool and

two carom tables, New Narraganset pattern.

The second story contains the main dining room, 34 x 34 feet. It is finished in antique quartered oak, with side paneled six feet high. It contains nine tables and is capable of accommodating 75 people without crowding.

Off this is the breakfast room. It is 13 by 20 feet and capable of accommodating 25 people. It is finished in antique quartered oak.

On the first floor, just off the elevator landing, are two small parlors finished in Nile green. They are furnished with delicately carved furniture and impart a decided appearance of rich comfort to the Hotel. Mr. and Mrs. Fox, who operate the hotel, occupy a suite on this floor, and their home is a model of cheerful and handsome quarters.

The kitchen is 24 ft. by 20 ft. It contains a two-fire Duparquet, Huot and Moneuse Co. range, 30-inch broiler, steam warming closet, steam carving table and all small kitchen ap-

pliances such as found in first class hotels.

The bakery is 21 x 23 feet. It contains a McDowell oven. The serving room is 18 x 10 feet, containing hot water, coffee and tea urns.

There are 72 chambers well lighted, no dark rooms and all furnished in the best manner in antique oak, birch and maple. The hotel is to be equipped with 50 Hoffman fire escapes.

All the rooms are heated by steam and all the rooms are lighted by gas or electricity; the house has a complete system of call and return call

bells throughout; also an automatic fire alarm arrangement with a complete equipment of speaking tubes.

There are private and public bath and toilet rooms on second, third and fourth floors.

The barber shop in the basement at the corner of Main St. and Sixth Ave. accommodates four chairs and contains two bath rooms, lavatory accommodations, etc.

GAS LIGHT IN ELEVATOR?

The upper floors are reached by an elevator of 1500 pounds